

DATE OF MEETING JULY 29, 2024

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SUBJECT TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS REGULATION BYLAW AMENDMENT BYLAW 2024 NO. 5000.048

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

Proposed amendments to the "Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw 1993 No. 5000" to regulate micromobility devices.

Recommendation

That:

1. "Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048" (micromobility traffic and safety on highways) pass first reading;
2. "Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048" pass second reading; and
3. "Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048" pass third reading.

BACKGROUND

At the 2024-FEB-26 Council Meeting, Council directed that the "Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw 1993 No. 5000" be amended to regulate micromobility devices beyond what is required by the Province for electric kick scooter (e-kick scooters) users within pilot program communities.

Council provided direction to participate in the pilot project enabling provincial regulations around micromobility devices. The City's Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw requires an amendment to allow for these devices to operate legally on Nanaimo streets.

DISCUSSION

Micromobility devices such as e-kick scooters are prominent on our roads and trails. The intent of participating in the provincial pilot program is to acknowledge the use of these devices at the same time as enacting regulations to mitigate conflicts between users, including those with accessibility issues.

Provincial regulation sets out criteria for the use of e-kick scooters in pilot communities, and includes device requirements and operator responsibilities. The full regulation is included as [Attachment A](#).

The amended bylaw for consideration considers the use of micromobility devices rather than limiting the scope to e-scooters and acknowledges the need to mitigate conflicts between the users of micromobility devices and individuals with accessibility issues.

With the proposed amendment, it provided the opportunity to also include some minor housekeeping amendments. They include:

- Removing the definition for “Director of Strategic Planning, Engineering and Economic Development and replacing it with “General Manager, Engineering and Public Works”.
- Removing reference to the “Director of Parks and Recreation” as this position is not relevant to the Bylaw.
- Removing Fine Schedule “E” as fines are now contained within the “Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw 2012 No. 7159”.
- Updating the Appeal section to reference the “Appeal Procedures Bylaw”

“Traffic and Highways Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048” is attached for Council’s consideration of three readings.

OPTIONS

1. That:

1. “Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048” (micromobility traffic and safety on highways) pass first reading;
2. “Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048” pass second reading; and
3. “Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048” pass third reading.

The advantages of this option are that the City of Nanaimo can continue with the e-kick scooter pilot project and begin regulating micromobility devices in our community. This option supports municipal goals for a green, connected, healthy and empowered Nanaimo, and GHG reduction by encouraging a shift in travel behaviours.

2. That Council provide alternate direction to Staff.

SUMMARY POINTS

- Council directed that an amended bylaw be prepared for consideration to further regulate the use of micromobility devices.
- The proposed Bylaw amendments are intended to capture a broader range of micromobility devices and to mitigate conflicts between users.
- The proposed Traffic and Highways Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048 is attached for Council's consideration of three readings.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Province of British Columbia Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project Regulation

Attachment B – Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw Amendment Bylaw 2024 No. 5000.048 |

Submitted by:

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Concurrence by:

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Works |